



USS TREPANG (SSN 674)
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Encl: (1) Command History for period January 1971 - January 1972

1. As required by reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.


D. R. SACKETT

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Fleet Post Office
New York, New York 09501

COMMAND HISTORY

JANUARY 1971 - JANUARY 1972

USS TREPANG is a 637 Class Fast Attack submarine commissioned on 14 August 1970. TREPANG is presently attached to Submarine Development Group TWO and homeported at the Naval Submarine Base, Groton, Connecticut.

In addition to the normal mission of a Nuclear Fast Attack submarine, TREPANG is engaged in the testing of prototype sonar systems. A great deal of work in 1971 was devoted to the improvement of sonar hardware, software, and operating techniques.

Commander Dean R. SACKETT, USN has served as Commanding Officer since new construction. The present Executive Officer, Lieutenant Commander Robert R. BEATON, relieved in August 1971. The Department Heads during 1971 were: Navigator/Operations Officer; Lieutenant Commander (b) (6) (b) (6) Engineer Officer; Lieutenant Commander (b) (6) (b) (6) Weapons Officer; Lieutenant (b) (6) (b) (6) and Supply Officer, Ensign (b) (6) (b) (6)

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF 1971

During January TREPANG operated in the local Narragansett Bay area in Submarine versus Submarine evolutions and prepared for deployment to the Arctic Ocean. The first half of February was spent in upkeep at the Naval Submarine Base. The last half of February found the crew of TREPANG making final preparations for her trip in the Arctic Ocean.

From 22 February to 22 March TREPANG operated under the Arctic ice. The purpose of this trip was manifold; extensive testing was accomplished which provided valuable data for new and improved weapons systems. TREPANG carried with her the noted ice scientist Mr Walter Whittman who performed many experiments concerning the movement, composition and geological history of the Arctic Ice Cap. TREPANG proved her ability to operate safely among the navigational and environmental hazards north of the Arctic Circle.

From 25 - 27 March TREPANG was moored for a port visit in Faslane, Scotland.

After completing a successful deployment, TREPANG arrived back in New London on 6 April.

On 22 April TREPANG departed for Norfolk, Virginia where the officers and crew were honored by a visit for lunch from the Secretary of Defense, Melvin R. Laird, his wife and friends.

On 27 April TREPANG proceeded to St Croix, Virgin Islands. From 2 May until 8 May TREPANG participated in weapons system acceptance and operational trials. During this time TREPANG made a port visit to St Croix.

TREPANG arrived in New London on 14 May and proceeded to the Electric Boat Company at Groton for a Post Shakedown Availability. The scope of this period was to make changes and improvements to various machinery components and systems.

After completion of Post Shakedown Availability on 16 July, TREPANG spent the week of 19 - 24 July in Prospective Commanding Officer operations in the local operating areas. These exercises consisted mainly of training new Commanding Officers in Submarine versus Submarine and Submarine versus Surface Ship tactics.

TREPANG returned to New London on 1 August and spent the first part of the month in type training in the local operating areas.

During the week of 23 - 30 August the ship participated in various sonar tests in the Tongue of the Ocean near Nassau in the British West Indies.

During the period 30 August to 2 September the ship visited Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The period from 18 October to 26 November was spent in type training and sonar calibration in preparation for an upcoming deployment.

In late November TREPANG departed her homeport for an extended deployment in the North Atlantic. During this deployment the ship demonstrated its ability to operate for long periods of time in a completely independent manner.

A Documentary Annex to this Basic History, enclosure (1), is the Roster of Officers and Crew who were assigned at the commissioning of USS TREPANG.